

Community Systems Development Work Group Work Plan

The Community Systems Development Work Group (CSDWG), of the Infant Toddler Committee of the Early Learning Council was jointly created with the Oversight and Coordination Committee of the Early Learning Council, the Government Interagency Team of the Birth to Five Project and the Home Visiting Task Force.

At the local level, in some communities, agencies administering the range of early childhood programs (i.e. Early/Head Start, Preschool for All, child care (home and center-based), maternal and child health and mental health programs and Prevention Initiative birth to three programs and home visiting) have joined efforts to develop cross-system strategies on how best to serve the families with young children in their community. The partnerships implement a range of strategies, including, but not limited to: building relationships, meeting regularly to share information and/or resources, developing referral, access and care coordination systems, developing outreach strategies for hard to reach families and focused cross-system work to improve the delivery of services to children and families. These community partnerships, which are also referred to as coalitions, collaborations, councils, networks, etc. may vary by name, but the overall goal of these joint efforts is local systems development to ensure the healthy growth and optimal development of young children in the context of their families.

Charge: To support local community partnerships in serving young children and their families across the state by assisting partnerships in improving coordination across early childhood programs and services at the local level.

Goal: Advise the Home Visiting Task Force (HVTF) and the ARRA State Advisory Council Grant process in developing and implementing a technical assistance model to support and enhance the work of new and existing local collaborative partnerships

Objective I	Action Steps	Responsibility	Timeframe
Develop and provide high quality technical assistance to communities with a big tent approach that helps them; 1) Build and/or enhance their collaborative partnership 2) Choose and implement the evidence-based home visitation model that best fit their needs	1. Building on the existing Strong Foundation's TA model, use a lead consultant model to build a cadre of professionals that will carry out the technical assistance work of this support system to ensure local access.	CSDWG SF grantee and SAC grantee	Ongoing
	2. Building on the existing SF model, conduct two levels of community outreach utilizing existing toolkits*; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Awareness Level Outreach to get all the communities aware of and engaged in the concept of community partnerships; and The Implementation Outreach Level to provide local technical assistance to facilitate the building and strengthening of a communities partnership 	CSDWG SF and SAC grantee	Ongoing

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	3. Working with selected communities, consider the coordination and collaboration that exists to support home visiting, complete appropriate needs assessments to support home visiting implementation and develop collaboration plans driving systemic change	SF grantee	
Deliverables	<p>1. <i>The Early Childhood Community Systems Development Toolkit</i> was created to provide a range of new and/or existing community partnerships in Illinois with a cadre of tools to develop and sustain their partnership.</p> <p>2. <i>The Resource Toolkit for Home Visiting Programs Serving Infants, Toddlers and Their Families: Implementing a Research-Based Model</i> was created to help communities and programs/partnerships become familiar with research-based home visiting models and with the existing infrastructure and support in Illinois to implement the program.</p>	CSDWG	Completed
	<p>3. Statewide awareness level trainings on collaboration and systems development.</p> <p>4. Implementation level technical assistance offered to individual communities</p> <p>5. Evaluation data from statewide awareness trainings analyzed and used to guide next steps of CSDWG.</p>	<p>SF grantee</p> <p>SF grantee</p> <p>CSDWG</p>	<p>7 completed</p> <p>2 communities participated</p> <p>Reported completed</p>

Goal: Create and recommend mechanisms that fund broad-based state to local partnership efforts to build and sustain community level systems.

Objective II	Action Steps	Responsibility	Timeframe
Develop ELC recommendation on a state to local funding model dedicated to assisting local partnerships in their work.	1. Develop shared/common language on the core functions of community partnerships/collaboration to inform the local funding model	CSDWG/Staffer	March/April 2011

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	2. Conduct research on existing IL models as well as other state models and analyze strengths and gaps of each.	CSDWG/Staffer	Ongoing
	3. Present research and draft recommendation to Work Group, and Infant Toddler Committee for feedback and review.	Chair/Staffer	March/April 2011
	4. Present final recommendation to the ELC	Chair	June 2011
Deliverables	1. ELC approval of work group recommendation	Chair	June 2011
	2. Work with OECD to integrate recommendation across multiple state systems	Chair/Staffer	Ongoing

Goal: Define and recommend key elements of a sustainable and effective referral and follow up system

Objective III	Action Steps	Responsibility	Timeframe
Building on existing initiatives (ABCD III, Project Launch) and the work of the TA support system, create key criteria/elements of various referral and follow up models	1. TBD		
	2. TBD		
	3. TBD		
Deliverables	1. TBD		